

REMARKS

Please cancel Claims 2-4, 12-24 and 36-37 without prejudice. Claims 1, 5-11 and 25-35 are pending. Claims 1, 5-11, 25 and 32 are amended herein. No new matter is added as a result of the claim amendments.

112 Rejection

The instant Office Action states that Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. As amended herein, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 11 complies with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

101 Rejection

The instant Office Action states that Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. As amended herein, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 11 complies with 35 U.S.C. § 101.

102 Rejections

The instant Office Action states that Claims 1, 5-11 and 25-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Weston (U.S. Patent No. 1,441,550). The Applicants have reviewed the cited reference and respectfully submit that the embodiments of the present invention recited in Claims 1, 5-11 and 25-35 is not shown or suggested by Weston.

Applicants respectfully submit that Weston does not show or suggest “a laminate comprising a first layer and a second layer, said first layer having a lower electrical resistance than said second layer” as recited in independent Claims 1, 25 and 32.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Weston does not show or suggest the embodiments of the present claimed invention recited in independent Claims 1, 25 and 32, and that these claims are considered patentable over Weston. Because Claims 5-11, 26-31 and 33-35 depend from either Claim 1, 25 and 32 and contain additional limitations, these claims are also considered patentable over Weston. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the basis for rejecting Claims 1, 5-11 and 25-35 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is traversed.

The instant Office Action also states that Claims 1, 5-11 and 25-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Diaz-Noriega (U.S. Patent No. 4,682,140). The Applicants have reviewed the cited reference and respectfully submit that the embodiments of the present invention recited in Claims 1, 5-11 and 25-35 is not shown or suggested by Diaz-Noriega.

Applicants respectfully submit that Diaz-Noriega does not show or suggest “a laminate comprising a first layer and a second layer, said first layer having a lower electrical resistance than said second layer” as recited in independent Claims 1, 25 and 32.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Diaz-Noriega does not show or suggest the embodiments of the present claimed invention recited in independent Claims 1, 25 and 32, and that these claims are considered patentable over Diaz-Noriega. Because Claims 5-11, 26-31 and 33-35 depend from either Claim 1, 25 and 32 and contain additional limitations, these claims are also considered patentable over Diaz-Noriega. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the basis for rejecting Claims 1, 5-11 and 25-35 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is traversed.

Conclusions

In light of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims. Based on the arguments presented above, Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1, 5-11 and 25-35 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these claims.

Applicants have reviewed the references cited but not relied upon. Applicants did not find these references to show or suggest the present claimed invention: U.S. Patent Nos. 5,420,456, 6,433,404, 4,544,907, 4,349,804, 3,417,357, 6,542,064, 6,384,708, 5,898,357, 4,751,490, 4,689,598, 2,682,587, 3,413,586, 3,524,157 and 4,331,947; and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0060350.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO LLP

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John P. Wagner, Jr.
Reg. No. 35,398

Two North Market Street
Third Floor
San Jose, California 95113
(408) 938-9060